

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.





HOODACRES WHITE Delphinium.

Barber

HOODACRES  
**DELPHINIUMS**

(Perennial Larkspurs)

# Greeting from the Plantman

Though small, this booklet is carefully prepared with accurate information on Delphiniums and is intended to be worth preserving for reference. Should it happen to come to one who is not interested it will be considered a favor if that person will kindly pass it on. Some have taken the trouble to send names of friends who garden with intelligence and skill, (Kindly use reply card enclosed—no postage to be attached), and I also wish to thank the many who report on the character of plants received and the results from Hoodacres seeds.



HOODACRES Larkspur farm and display field is located directly on **Columbia River Highway**, the great scenic drive of the western world, five miles out from Portland city limits and midway between Portland and Troutdale. (Office formerly at 1552 Union Avenue, Portland.) Take Sandy Road to Birdsdales Avenue.

Some Delphiniums are blooming throughout the season; largest showing late May through June, September and October. Visitors are always welcome.

*Chas. F. Barber*

TROUTDALE, OREGON

(Mail and wire address)

Phone Gresham LD 1687



*Autumn 1929 ~ Spring 1930*

(A new catalog is issued each year about August first)



DELPHINIUM STATLINESS—Eight and nine foot spires in the wall-  
ed garden of Mr. Harry A. Roberts, at Oak Grove, Oregon. (Another  
section of this beautiful garden on back cover.)





## HOODACRES ON THE HIGHWAY

---

**HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS** represent the pinnacle of present attainment in these stately flowers. In beginning the work of selection and improvement, which has extended over a period of more than twenty-five years, I took advantage of the best that had been done in Europe and continued to add the cream of their accomplishments so long as it contributed new or valuable features to the Hoodacres ideal.

The demand for **Hoodacres Delphiniums** made it imperative that greatly enlarged growing conditions be provided. The **Columbia River Highway** being one of the famous scenic drives of the world seemed the logical direction and great good fortune attended the selection: splendid soil, prominent and pleasing location, together with nearness to the city of Portland, make it quite ideal.

In this new tract, containing seven and a half acres, we shall be still better prepared to send out plants of great vigor and highest quality, also to accept and fill very large orders. Here also the conditions for plant breeding will allow of greatly extended work in that direction and the public will be informed of the new things from time to time.



### *Note the Kind of Roots We Send Out*

**Lockport, New York, July 1928.**

"I have purchased quite a variety of Delphiniums from various growers but the plants you shipped me in the spring produced the finest flowers in all my collection.

It is evident that you have not only put a great deal of science in your propagation of Delphiniums but also skill, love and thought. I congratulate you on your success."

**Keene, New Hampshire, February 1929.**

"I ought to have written you before that the dozen Delphiniums you sent a year ago last fall had the best roots I have ever received, even from much larger plants. Last summer and fall they were wonderful and were the glory of my garden."



**STAINED GLASS.** Most beautiful in every way—splendid growth, shapely spike, large flowers with pinky mauve coloring, beautifully translucent, like stained glass. No plants yet, but a limited supply of seeds.



## HOODACRES ON THE HIGHWAY

---

### *Wrexham or "Hollyhock" Delphiniums*

This strain is now extensively known for its massive, garden-display, spikes of bloom—broad at the base and large in every way, so we need only say that, having been the first to introduce these plants to the growers in the United States, with a large initial planting, we continue to grow them in large numbers, literally acre lots, and are prepared to send out the finest specimens to be had outside the originator's garden.

While we do not follow the questionable practice of sending out mere seedlings under the name of some seed-parent, (for Delphiniums do not come true from seed), we do produce a large number of **true** and **typical** WREX-HAMS that are carefully tested after full blooming, and these we offer to discriminating buyers.

Selected seedling plants, **\$3.00** and **\$5.00** each. Only a limited number of the **\$5.00** kind.

Above prices apply also to the superior Hoodacres-Wrexham seedlings.

This illustration on opposite page is intended to represent the type and show the full development of a plant, instead of a single spike. **OLYMPUS** grew under normal conditions of soil, climate and treatment and at time of photographing was just about twenty-eight months old.

### — American Delphinium Society —

During the year this young and notable organization has increased its membership to 400 and without any special effort, which is significant of the interest in Delphinium growing. One of its activities is the monthly publication of articles and notes on all subjects of interest in connection with this flower, especially those relating to culture. Records of development in all parts of the world will also be included. This is "**Delphinium Lore**", a prominent department in the magazine "**Better Flowers**", and is sent to all members. Until January 1930 the enrollment and annual dues will remain \$1.50. Applications should be sent to American Delphinium Society, c/o Secretary, Pittock Block, Portland, Oregon.





---

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

---



OLYMPUS



## *The New White Delphinium*

One of the loveliest flowers imaginable is a well grown spike of double white Delphinium. Something about its formation and appealing purity goes straight to the heart. Few flower growers have come under the spell of this new creation.

After many years of skillful endeavor by the breeders of the world to produce a good semi-double White Delphinium it remained for HOODACRES, in America, to bring forth this remarkable accomplishment. And it has been done with the fewest possible intermediate stages of development. The magnificent spikes of purest white are carried as tall and on just as rugged plants as the ones with color. This will be observed in the photographs reproduced in this booklet. **There are no duplicates of these WHITES anywhere in the world.**

While these pages may carry beautiful illustrations of things grown at Hoodacres, they cannot reproduce the spectacle of living specimens and the imagination of the reader must be invoked to visualize them. Going into the White garden here in the edge of the evening is like entering a land of enchantment where the ranks of an army are filled with soldiers of peace.

Albinos of the past have been weak, shabbily clothed and unfit to appear in good company. Quite as by magic these white creations came, leaving the hybridizers puzzling as to how it was brought about.



**Omaha, Nebraska, July 10, 1928.**

"I must tell you of the beautiful blooms we had from your seed started last summer. We watched them each day and what was our surprise and delight one morning to find the tallest and best looking plant blossom out a pure white with immense flowerets that glistened in the sun. It was worth everything else in the garden."

(Description of varieties, page ten)



## HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

---



ANGEL'S BREATH, clear white, fawn center. Typical for size, form and substance of all HOODACRES WHITES.

**San Francisco, June 21st, 1929.**

"The WHITE Delphinium plants—Pearl Necklace and two seedlings purchased from you in January—are in bloom, and I cannot express in words their beauty and charm. They are far beyond in purity of color, what I thought a White Delphinium could be. They are marvelous.

In looking over my records I find that in the past years we have won four first prizes, including a silver cup, with HOODACRES seeds. I am sure you will be interested to hear this report of your Delphinium family."

—Mrs. M. A. Harris





## HOODACRES ON THE HIGHWAY

---

### *White Varieties*

**White Sister.** Clear white double flowers of good size and fine form, well set on medium length spikes, the whole plant representing the same health and good breeding as seen in the best colored varieties. It was the parent of both Pearl Necklace and The Bride. Strong plants **\$10.00** each.

**Pearl Necklace.** Large flowers of the purest glistening white and carried on a splendid size spike. This is an outstanding creation with its vigorous growth and luxuriant foliage. It would be difficult for the imagination to picture anything finer for purity and loveliness. Strong plants **\$25.00** each.

**Angel's Breath.** Think of all the features that go to make up the beauty of Pearl Necklace, but in place of the clear white center imagine one of fawn, and you have Angel's Breath. Strong plants **\$15.00** each.

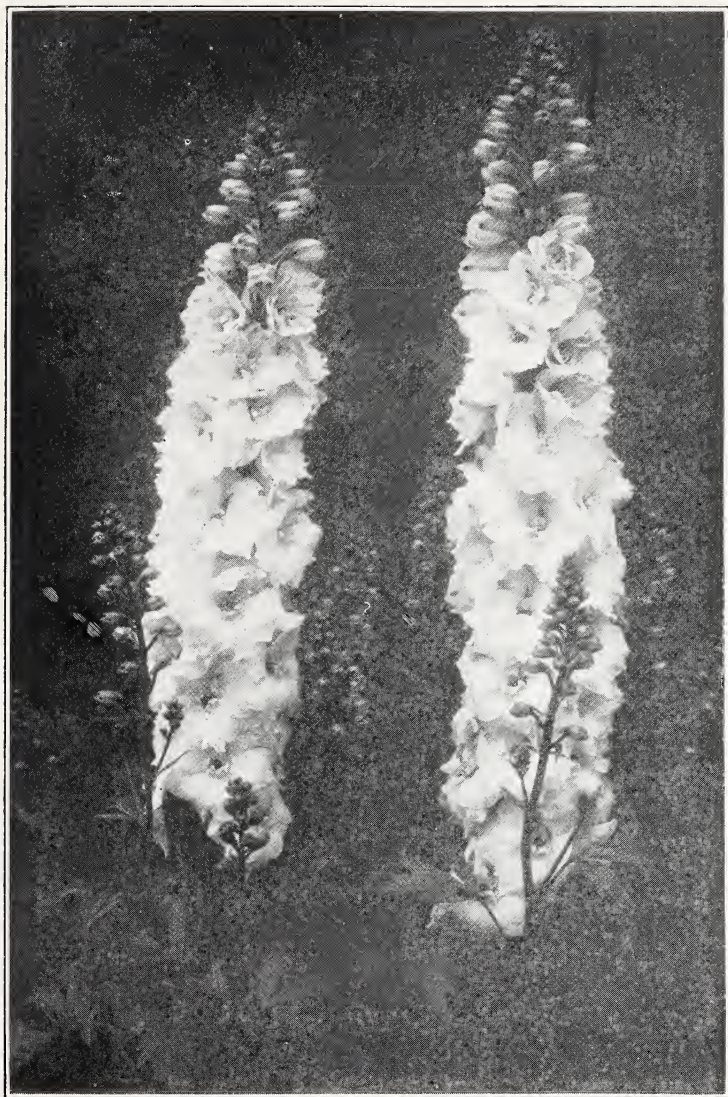
**Snow Bound.** Much the same as other Hoodacres White varieties, except that absence of the usual number of petaloids at the center exposes the tiny black-tipped stamens, affording another attractive feature. Strong plants **\$20.00** each.

**The Bride.** Blush white. No plants this season.

**Bridal Gown.** A Hoodacres white with single blossoms. Handsome flowers and excellent plants but flor-ets either single or only partly doubled. Strong plants **\$5.00** each.

HOODACRES WHITE seeds; packets containing not less than 100, **\$5.00**.

(These packets contain seeds of the double varieties only and in about equal numbers.)



HOODACRES WHITE.



# Delphinium Classifications



## White Centered Singles

Apache, light  
Cayuga, medium  
Eskimo, dark

## Dark Centered Singles

Biloxi, light  
Dakota, medium  
Fonecha, dark

## White Centered Semi-Doubles and Doubles

Navajo, light  
Pawnee, medium  
Rama, dark

## Dark Centered Semi-Doubles and Doubles

Ottawa, light  
Quapaw, medium  
Shasta, dark



---

## HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

---

### *SELECTED Hoodacres Hybrids*

#### UNNAMED

Cannot be too highly recommended, and just escape being set aside and named by reason of their close similarity to others that are so honored. They are the seedling product of the finest varieties the world affords, grown to large blooming specimens before they are sent out. Some of the parents are wonderful new kinds, not for sale at any price.

From the many thousand plants so created, is selected each season, at time of blooming, by a system of careful checking, a limited number of exceptional merit that are distinguished into **light**, **medium** and **dark** shades as well as other characteristics outlined in the Classification, page 12. These **must not be confused with named kinds** referred to elsewhere in this catalog, although they vie with them in general excellence.

(No named varieties can be selected under this head)

### *UNSELECTED Hoodacres Hybrids*

are sold from the general planting, after all doubtful ones have been eliminated when in bloom. Many forms and colors. These give remarkable satisfaction and frequently single specimens are found to be worth the cost of a dozen. The price is low enough to encourage liberal planting. Do you know the pleasure of a Delphinium patch from which to cut freely for indoor decoration?



Plants are usually shipped by express.



"What is worth coveting is worth purchasing."



## HOODACRES ON THE HIGHWAY

---

### *Delphinium Plants*

SELECTED Hoodacres Hybrids, **\$1.00** each, dozen **\$10.00**. In light, medium and dark shades.

HOODACRES-WREXHAM Hybrids, **\$2.00** each, dozen **\$20.00**. In light, medium and dark shades.

WREXHAM strain, typical spikes, **\$3.00** and **\$5.00** each.

UNSELECTED Hoodacres Hybrids, **\$3.00** dozen, 2 dozen **\$5.00**.

HOODACRES WHITE varieties (See page 8.)

Our system of packing insures perfect delivery anywhere in the United States, Canada and Mexico, and even more distant points. **We advise fall planting.**

### *Small Seedlings ~ Spring Shipment*

The demand each spring for small unbloomed plants prompts us to offer them for the first time through this catalog. They are from August sowings, **carried through winter in open outdoor frames**, insuring splendid vigor, transplanted, and then made ready to ship anywhere on the North American continent safely. From the following seed stock:

HOODACRES complete range (including some from WHITE plants.)

From LIGHT SHADES only.

From DARK SHADES only.

WREXHAM strain separate.

One dozen **\$3.00**; 2 dozen **\$5.00**.

(For Delphinium Seeds, see page 16)



Class Spikes: BILOXI, SHASTA, HOODACRES WHITE,  
RAMA, QUAPAW, in their order.



## HOODACRES ON THE HIGHWAY

### *SEEDS of Hoodacres Delphiniums*

One of the most exacting operations at Hoodacres is the protection and collection of **SEEDS** from prepared specimen plants. Only such are used—we do not gather from the general planting.

As all our advancement over existing kinds comes by cross pollenization through seeds, the skillful preparation of these tiny germs holds a great prophecy for next year's revelations. From many reports the quality of Hoodacres seedling is unrivaled, particularly in the number of exceptional specimens produced.

HOODACRES, complete range of shades and forms liberal packets.....	\$1.00
CLASSIFIED, 12 types (See pages 13-14), in separate packets only:	
Navajo, Ottawa, Pawnee, Quapaw, Rama, Shasta, double flowers, packets.....	\$1.00 each
Apache, Biloxi, Cayuga, Dakota, Eskimo, Foncecha, single flowers, packets.....	50c each
The set of 12 packets.....	\$7.50
WREXHAM (Hollyhock) strain, alone, packet.....	\$1.00
FRAGRANS, the one with perfume, packet.....	\$1.00
HOODACRES WHITE, double varieties mixed, packet .....	\$5.00
HOODACRES DEEP BLUES, new. Large double flowers impressively rich in coloring, packet....	\$2.00
STAINED GLASS, translucent pinky mauve, packet .....	\$1.00

### *How to Grow Delphiniums from Seed*

The seed-bed, whether flats, cold-frame or open ground, should be composed of fine loamy soil, with sand added, if required, for perfect friability, and containing some leaf mold. Late summer sowing, preferably in cold-frames without glass, but **shaded until germination takes place** (where they may remain over winter), will





## HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

---

bring flowering plants the following summer. Very early spring sowing in gentle heat will also produce some bloom the same season (greenhouse or hotbed). Some bottom heat facilities and accelerates germination at this season of the year. Later spring sowing will furnish plants for blooming the following June. A layer of sand on top of seed-bed will discourage slugs and prevent crust.

Once transplanting before going into permanent place induces a fuller root system. **Never let the seed-bed dry out for even a moment.**

Sowing Delphinium seeds in open ground invites disappointment—planting in cold-frame with raised soil vastly better. Give plenty of air and use glass only as necessary.

A half inch layer of sand on top of the seed-bed will afford winter protection, discourage slugs, and also prevent crust.

Hoodacres seeds are harvested throughout the month of July and are usually ready to send out the first week in August, just in time to be sown for carrying over winter.

**It is unsafe to sow out-of-doors after August as frost will lift the too small plants.**

Delphinium seeds are only at their best when fresh and should not be counted upon when more than one year old. The fresher they are the more prompt will be germination. We never send out old harvesting.

Seed boxes prepared as follows will be found to give exceptional results. After providing drainage holes fill the lowest one inch with cracked oyster shell and over this a thin layer of peat moss. Then complete with soil made up of two parts garden loam, one part leaf mold and one part sand. This is a nearly perfect planting medium.



## *Delphinium Companions*

**Tower Bells.** Campanulas of the new "Giant" peach-bells class, standing four to five feet high with tough stems, clothed their length with great bells of Bradley's Violet. Splendid Delphinium companions, hardy and long blooming. Plants **50c** each; **\$5.00** per dozen.

**English Hybrid Lupins.** Marvelous in their new colorings they win applause from all who see them. Their time is for a month just before the reign of Delphiniums. The best stock and rarest colors obtainable in Europe, with added developments at Hoodacres. Light to deep pink and into rose, yellow shades, lavenders, blues and purples, apricot and orange, etc. Liberal packets of seeds **50c**.

**New Viola—Jersey Jewell.** A vast improvement over the fine variety, Jersey Gem. Twice the size of blossoms and true "Pansy Violet" color. Perpetual flowering habit and very profuse. Plants build up into large clumps, sheeted over with bloom. **\$5.00** per dozen, **50c** each.

**Tuberous Begonias.** Larger than, but Camellia-like in their waxen flowers, they are marvels of form and color. Summer bloomers and continuous until frost. Plant them out, after starting into growth, and lift at approach of winter, storing like bulbs. We grow the genuine BLACKMORE & LANGDON stock, in shades of red, pink, orange, yellow, etc., well assorted. Fine blooming tubers **\$2.00** and **\$3.00** per dozen, according to size. Basket Begonias (also tuberous) for window boxes **\$2.00** per dozen.



We cannot fill plant orders for less than \$1.00.



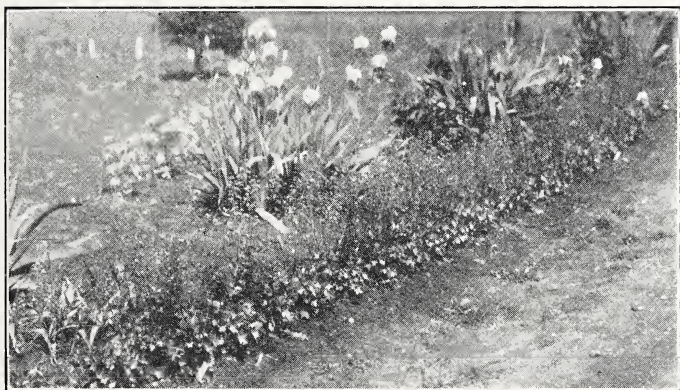
## HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

**Testaceum Lilies.** With its imposing stature, beautiful "Nankeen" yellow color, exquisite fragrance, and healthy growth in ordinary soil, this is one of the most prized lilies grown and the admiration of all who see it. Note the six foot specimens pictured on next page. Strong blooming bulbs in two sizes, **\$1.00** and **\$2.00** each. 10 per cent less by the dozen.

**Regale Lilies.** Blooming size bulbs: **30, 50, 75c** and **\$1.00** each. 10 per cent less by the dozen.

## The Garden Trim

The ideal edging plant that shines also in the rockery and becomes a most charming and lasting cut flower is the new **Hybrid Heuchera**. A new race of "Coral Bells" with greater vigor and blooming power, in shades from pure white through pink to coral and brilliant reds to maroon. They make a flowing stream of color when edging the borders. We are now supplying **Rain of Fire**, a most brilliant red, and **Edge Hall**, the quieter pinky shade. Plants **40c** each; **\$4.00** per dozen.



HYBRID HEUCHERAS, as edging plants.



LILIUM TESTACEUM, ideal in association with blue Delphiniums.



# *Hoodacres Plants in Far-away New Zealand*

We ship almost the world around.



HOODACRES SEEDLING  
14 weeks old.

## **HOODACRES SEEDLINGS in the same garden.**

In May came the following report from Mrs. Algie on Hoodacres seeds: "I am sending you two photos of the first ones to flower and they were then three months and one week old. No. 1 (reproduced above) is the loveliest thing I've ever seen in a garden; color the blue of a really clear sky after a week of rain, double, and each petal outlined with a 'scallop' design in mauve as if it had been done with the finest pen—the center a true fawn. With a tape measure, not stretched, the blooms were  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches across and the blooms of the side shoots opened to  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

**Auckland, 2 February 1929.**

"I received the Delphinium plants on the afternoon of Wednesday last (30 January)

\* \* They were most beautifully packed, but we noticed that the top ones were in much the better condition. \* \*

We put them all into deep boxes, with well prepared soil and sand, placed low down in our little glass house, with plenty of air. This was done on the eve of their arrival and you can imagine my delight, early of Friday morning to find that the driest plants on arrival had sent up beautiful shoots.





## *Their Culture*

Plants are safely moved throughout the fall and **early** spring, but may suffer if moved in late spring. Except in very wet, cold soils, **autumn planting is strongly recommended.**

Delphiniums set in autumn make unchecked headway when the spring urge comes and therefore make better showing than those set in spring; they are among the first herbaceous plants to start growth. After getting well grown plants allow ample space for each and open the earth eighteen inches **or more in depth** and as much in breadth, filling one-half with rough humus soil (old sods will do) well tamped.

If the sub-soil is very heavy, dig the hole six inches deeper and fill that depth with coarse gravel to insure perfect drainage. Complete filling with the best soil you can provide, preferably containing some leaf mold, and made thoroughly friable. If of a clayey nature, incorporate sand to prevent caking, as much of the vigor of the plant comes from the tiny surface roots. Set plants two feet apart, with crowns two inches below the surface, the roots well spread and soil firmed against them before leveling. Avoid dense shade, roots of trees, and stuffy locations.

When growth first starts in spring dig around each plant a trowel of bone-meal. Cut faded spikes to prevent seeding. It is the nature of hybrid Delphiniums to **bloom a second time** in the season and as the second growth appears the old stalk yellows, is no longer required, and should be cut down. Do not force this second growth, rather allow a short resting period, then give another supply of bone-meal, **being careful not to destroy the fine surface-feeding roots**, and water generously. If the weaker growths are removed when plants are a few inches high the remaining ones will benefit. Well grown Delphiniums will bloom the first season after planting and being true perennials should, with favorable conditions, increase in size and grandeur each year.



## Garden Enemies

Although hardly known on the Pacific Coast, in some sections there has been trouble from a disease called "blight" or "black spot," which starts with black spots on the leaves that extend and enlarge until the entire growth of the plant is killed. Also there is a form of root rot that seems to prevail in some places. An effective cure is said to be a government formula, as follows: Mercuric Chloride, 1 gram; Sodium Nitrate, 1 gram; Water,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  gallons. Apply with a sprinkler close in so as to get down to the roots. It will not injure the foliage and takes care of both the spot and root rot.

If plants show a weak or unhealthy condition, not due to the above troubles, it may be the soil is not healthy. Try the following: Unslaked lime, 2 pounds; Water, 5 gallons; Tobacco dust,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound. Slake lime and add tobacco dust, then when using dilute in proportion of 1 to 12 and saturate the ground freely, repeating as needed.

Also the standard lime-sulphur solution as diluted for orchard spray is an excellent and safe corrective on Delphinium ground.

We are told that "Mildew will not be known, neither the black-spot, if sprayed with lime-sulphur solution, adding **Black-leaf 40**" (one tablespoon to 3 gallons).

In mild climates the slug sometimes becomes a pest, destroying the young growths of various plants. Here are several recommended formulas for battling with them:

Pound fine copper sulphate crystals and strew on the ground where slugs work—merely touching it dries them up. It is very poisonous and must be handled with care.

One pound calcium arsenate to 16 pounds bran mixed with water to just crumble. Sprinkle at night when not raining.

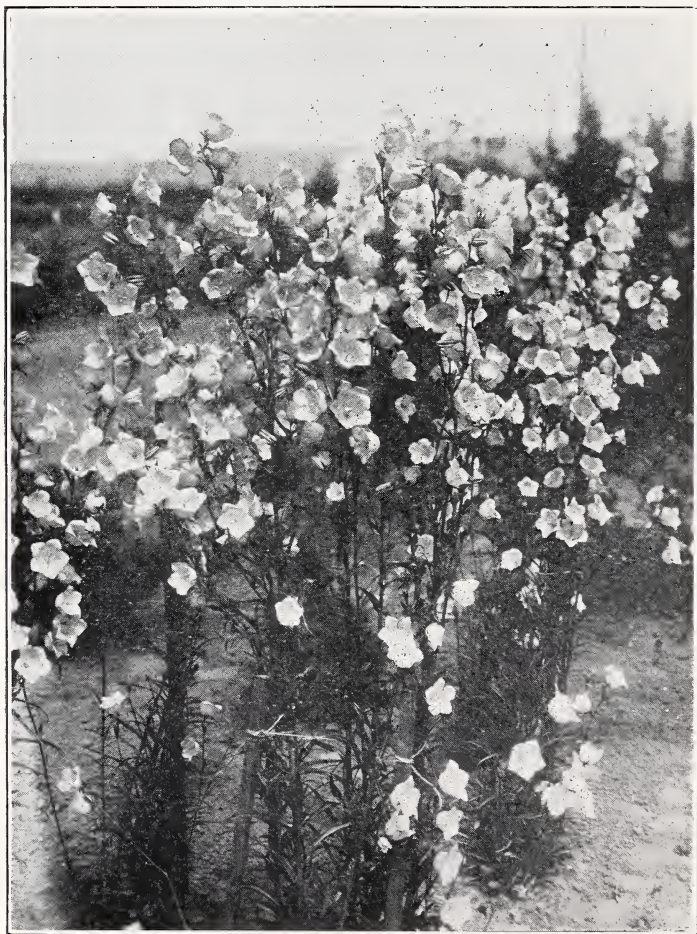
One half teaspoon permanganate of potash and one-half teaspoon salt to two gallons water. Wetting the ground with this brings them quickly to the surface.



---

HOODACRES ON THE HIGHWAY

---



Campaula, TOWER BELLS. Color Bradley's Violet.



## HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

---

### *Lantern Slides for Delphinium Talks*

Occasionally Mr. Barber is inveigled into giving Delphinium talks before Garden Clubs, but, not being a lecturer, relies upon a small set of colored slides, illustrative of the modern Delphinium in its various forms, colors and uses, to keep the audience from flocking out. These slides, including a few on companion plants, and now numbering over 30, will be gladly loaned to accredited Garden Clubs, as available, when "Delphiniums" is to be the meeting topic. The Club is to be responsible for their safe and prompt return and the mailing charges going and coming. It will be well to make application a month in advance.

*All Letters in this Catalog are Entirely Spontaneous*

**Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico, November 26, 1927.**

"The Delphiniums arrived in fine condition. I am sending my check to cover the cost, and sending, of one more dozen of the Selected Hoodacres Hybrids. Please pack in the same manner as the first order."

**Grinnell, Iowa, October 27, 1927.**

"Thank you very much for those Delphiniums packed like some rare antiques that we received from Boston. The stock is great—you probably get tired reading about never receiving better stock. We never did."

**Philadelphia, June 14, 1928.**

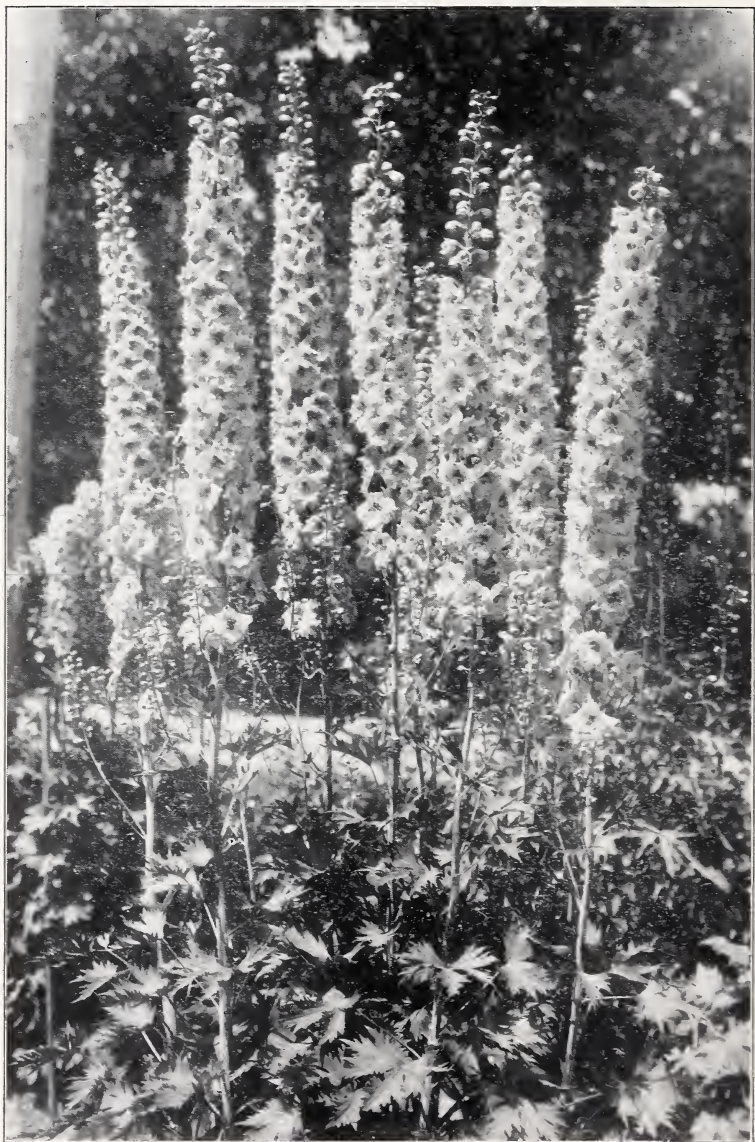
"The Delphiniums arrived at Ardmore in excellent condition and are thriving at the present time.

I was surprised at the large size of these plants, which is beyond anything I have yet seen in first year's seedlings."

**Washington, Penna., June 25, 1928.**

"I will say in regard to you and your plants; they are better by far than any we have raised, considering the fact that we have some 50,000 now growing in our nursery, from imported English strains and other Delphinium Specialists in America."





One of many field grown unfertilized HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS.





## *When Delphiniums Bloom*

It is not difficult to comprehend why gardeners grow Delphiniums, or perennial Larkspurs. They do not grow them for profit, although those who tend the flowers may be commercial gardeners. They do not grow them for gain solely. If you have seen a garden of Delphiniums in full flower, ranging from the hue of a starless twilight to that of cloudless summer noon, you will know that gardeners could not think wholly of profit and grow Delphiniums. For if they were to begin thinking in this wise, there is so much money to be made of seedlings and seed, presently they must stand mused before the blossoms, giving thanks to creation. And they would be thinking, "Here is a sunset over the far sea"; and thinking, "Here is night as she comes to the valley"; and their thoughts would be far from dollars and dross. \* \* \* It is in this wise that gardeners watch the Delphinium, and more observantly than any other of the garden's guests.

Nor are they ever unrewarded. There is a morning when the spires unfold, and modestly, and day to day the Delphiniums increase in stately stature and quaint beauty until there is no dream of blue that does not find its counterpart in the garden. There are tints past dreaming, as must ever be the case when the creative artistry vies with the fancy of mortals. Delphiniums are very satisfactory. To walk among them is to feel that providence is not unmindful of beauty, that it takes thought of the nurture of the spirit, and that the Delphiniums hold speech with you. There is a white-crowned sparrow singing in the rose.—Ben Hur Lampman in *The Oregonian*.



### **FRANK WORDS from a DELPHINIUM SPECIALIST**

"I have planted Delphiniums from all over the world but my best are from your seed and I want to keep my plantings, as heretofore, the wonder of this section."—July 8th, 1929.

